AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please **revise the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 5** of the specification as follows:

Fig. 3 shows a screen A as one example of the screen displayed on the monitor 20. The entirety of the read-out image P' is displayed on the right of the screen A, square □ marks M_1 to M_4 marked by the operator by hand at the defects that need correction are displayed. Further, the positions of the marks given are automatically detected by comparing the image data of the read-out image P' with the fine scan image data, and then identification numbers of 1 to 4 are automatically given to the vicinity of the square □ marks M_1 to M_4. Herein, since many of the defects that need correction are small and fine, there ~~is~~ are few cases where the defects are displayed on the monitor 20 by the display of the entirety of the read-out image P'. In the case of the example of Fig. 3, the defects that need correction are not displayed. However, as shown in an enlarged display image Q in Fig. 3, a portion of the image of the fine scan image data corresponding to the square □ mark M_1 of the read-out image P' is displayed on the screen A in an enlarged state, and thus the defect that needs correction is displayed. In the example of the enlarged display image Q of Fig. 3, a linear scratch defect D is displayed. Such enlargement of the image may be performed automatically or by an instruction entered by clicking the mouse

18b or the like. Detection of each of the square □ marks M_1 to M_4 marked by hand for performing automatic image enlargement only requires determination of a difference between the fine scan image data and the image data of the read-out image P'. Since both image data are essentially the same, each square □ mark added to the read-out image P' by hand is detected as a result of the difference. The operator can specify the position of the defect accurately on the monitor screen while looking at the defect such as the scratch defect D which needs correction as displayed on the monitor 20 in an enlarged state. The read-out image P' is read out from the print containing the fine scan image data and hence the read-out image P' coincides with the fine scan image for the relative relationship between the image size and the position to be specified. Assuming here that the fine scan image has an image size of X × Y, the read-out image P' has an image size of Xp × Yp, and the coordinates of the position to be specified for correction are (x,y), the coordinates of the position of the fine scan image data to be displayed in an enlarged state, (xq, yq) are determined by the following equations:

$$xq = x \times (X/Xp)$$

$$yq = y \times (Y/Yp)$$

In Fig. 3, a triangular ▲ mark T accurately specifies one pixel corresponding to the scratch defect D that needs correction.

Please **revise the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 16** of the specification as follows:

Thereafter, by using the continuity of the image, the entire defect that needs correction is specified from the pixel of the defective portion accurately specified, and the entire defect is corrected by interpolating from peripheral pixels or by performing gain adjustment of the image data value from the difference between the defective pixel and the peripheral pixels. Thus, correction and removal of the defect are performed. Alternatively, the operator performs the manual correction as described above. Moreover, correction ~~date~~ data separate from the fine scan image data is prepared and substituted for the image data of the defective portion.